

CXIII, "... but I have discovered laziness, inattention, and inattention, and indifference; faults which are only pardonable in old men. ... But a young man should be ambitious to shine and excel; alert, active, and indefatigable in the means of doing it."¹ Letter XLVI, "Such are the rewards that always crown virtue; and such the characters that you should imitate, if you would be a great and a good man, which is the only way to be a happy one."²

Again, turn to the conduct books,

"Be constant, stable, not harde and obstinate,
No wise man him sheweth selfwilled interestable,
Nor in his opinion all season indurate,
A man of such maners oneth is tolerable,
Thinke not that all tales are just and veritable,
But wisely discusse thou suche things as may vary,
And from the first report prove afterward contrary."³

"And for the first and chief let him avoid above all things curiosity. Afterward let him consider well what the thing is he doeth or speaketh, the place where it is done, in presence of whom, in what time, the cause why he doeth it, his age, his profession, the end whereto it tendeth, etcetera."⁴

"Flatter delicately.

Study the foibles of men.

Observe certain times of applying to these foibles.

1. Chesterfield's Letters to His Son, p 111, Letter CXIII.
2. op. cit., p 43, Letter XLVI.
3. Mirrour of Good Maners, p 21.
4. The Courtier, p 100.